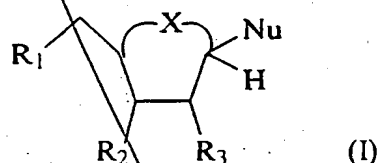


CLAIMS

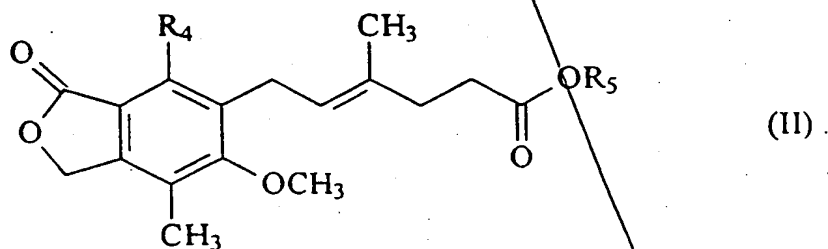
1. Use, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a  
5 flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, of:

- (a) an interferon, and
- (b) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of:  
- 5-membered cyclic nucleosides having the formula (I):



wherein  $\sim X \sim$  is  $=CH-$ ,  $-CH_2-$  or  $-O-$ , Nu is selected from the group consisting of purines, pyrimidines and five- or six-membered aglycones,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of H, OH, O-acyl, O-aryl and O-silyl, and  $R_1$  is as defined for  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  or is O-phosphate, and pharmaceutically acceptable metabolites, metabolite derivatives and salts thereof;

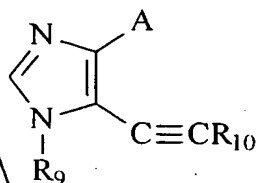
- mycophenolic acid compounds having the formula (II)



wherein  $R_4$  is  $-OR_6$  or  $-N(R_7)$ ,  $R_8$  in which  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl, and  $R_5$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, phenyl and  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl unsubstituted or substituted by a five- or six-membered saturated or

unsaturated heterocyclic ring, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;  
 - imidazole derivatives represented by formula (III):

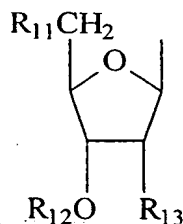
5



(III).

10

wherein  $R_9$  is a hydrogen atom or

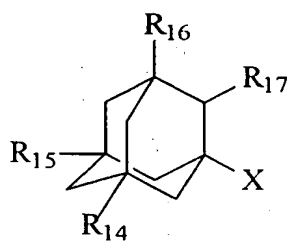


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wherein  $R_{10}$  is a hydrogen atom,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, hydroxy( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl) or phenyl,  $R_{11}$  and  $R_{13}$  are independently selected from hydrogen and  $OR_{12}$  and  $R_{12}$  is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxy protecting group and A is  $CONH_2$  or CN, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

20

aminoadamantanes having the formula (IV):



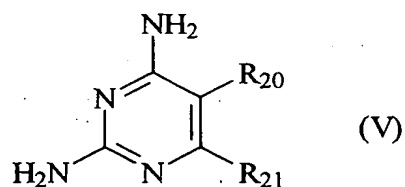
(IV).

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wherein each of  $R_{14}$ ,  $R_{15}$ ,  $R_{16}$  and  $R_{17}$  is independently selected from the group consisting of H, F and  $CH_3$  and X is  $N(R_{18})_2$ ,  $CH_2CH_2N(R_{18})_2$  or  $C(R_{19})_2N(R_{18})_2$  wherein each  $R_{18}$  and  $R_{19}$  is H, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ ) alkyl, ( $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ ) aryl and ( $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ ) aralkyl; and

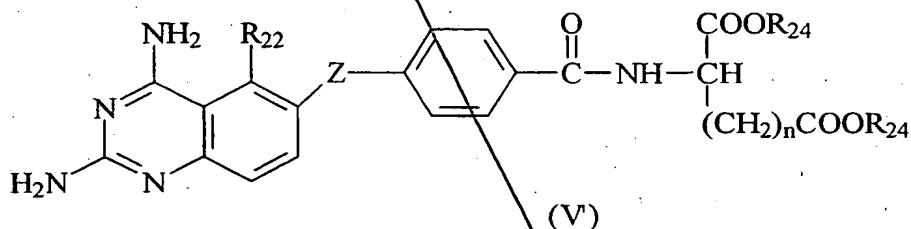
30

- 2,4-diaminopyrimidines having the formula (V):



wherein R<sub>20</sub>

is phenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of benzyl, NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkylamino and halogen and R<sub>21</sub> is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; or R<sub>20</sub> and R<sub>21</sub> form, together with the 2,4-diaminopyrimidine ring to which they are attached, a quinazoline derivative of formula (V'):



wherein Z is -CH<sub>2</sub>NR<sub>23</sub>- or -NR<sub>23</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-; R<sub>22</sub>, R<sub>23</sub> and R<sub>24</sub> are each, independently, H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; and n is 1 or 2, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. Use of an interferon in the manufacture of a medicament for use with at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 1 in the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.
3. Use of at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for use with an interferon in the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.
4. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the flavivirus is selected from yellow fever virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus, hepatitis C virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus.
5. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the rhabdovirus is selected from vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) and rabies virus.

6. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the interferon (a) is a human interferon.

7. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the interferon is selected from interferon  $\alpha 2$ , interferon  $\alpha 8$  and interferon  $\beta$ .

5 8. Use according to claim 7, wherein the interferon is human interferon  $\alpha 8$  having a specific activity of from  $0.6 \times 10^9$  to  $1.5 \times 10^9$  IU per mg protein.

9. Use according to claim 7, wherein the interferon is human interferon  $\beta$  having a specific activity of from  $4 \times 10^8$  to  $8 \times 10^8$  per mg protein.

10 10. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the compound (b) is at least one compound selected from cyclopentenyl cytosine, mycophenolic acid, 5-ethynyl-1- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosylimidazole-4-carboxamide, amantadine hydrochloride, 3-deazaneplanocin, neplanocin A, 3-deazauridine, 6-azauridine, aristeromycin, pyrazofurin, tiazaforin, selenofurin, NSC 382046, NSC 7364, NSC 302325, NSC 184692D and NSC 382034.

15 11. Products containing an interferon and at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 1 as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.

20 12. Use, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, of an interferon  $\alpha 8$  having a specific activity of from  $0.6 \times 10^9$  to  $1.5 \times 10^9$  IU per mg protein.

13. Use according to claim 12, wherein the flavivirus is selected from yellow fever virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus, hepatitis C virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus.

25 14. Use according to claim 12, wherein the rhabdovirus is VSV.

15. Use according to claim 12, wherein the interferon  $\alpha 8$  is human interferon  $\alpha 8$ .

30 16. Interferon  $\alpha 8$  having a specific activity of from  $0.6 \times 10^9$  to  $1.5 \times 10^9$  IU per mg of protein for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body by therapy.

17. Interferon  $\alpha 8$  according to claim 16 for use in the treatment of a

flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.

18. Use of interferon  $\alpha 8$  having a specific activity of from  $0.6 \times 10^9$  to  $1.5 \times 10^9$  IU per mg of protein in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.

5 19. An anti-flavivirus or anti-rhabdovirus agent comprising interferon  $\alpha 8$  having a specific activity of from  $0.6 \times 10^9$  to  $1.5 \times 10^9$  IU per mg of protein.

20. A method of treating a host having a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, which method comprises the step of administering to the host, in respective amounts which produce a synergistic anti-flaviviral or anti-rhabdoviral effect, an  
10 interferon and at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 1.

21. An agent for use in the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, which comprises an interferon and at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 1.

Add A17